



DIA

DEFENSE
INTELLIGENCE
AGENCY

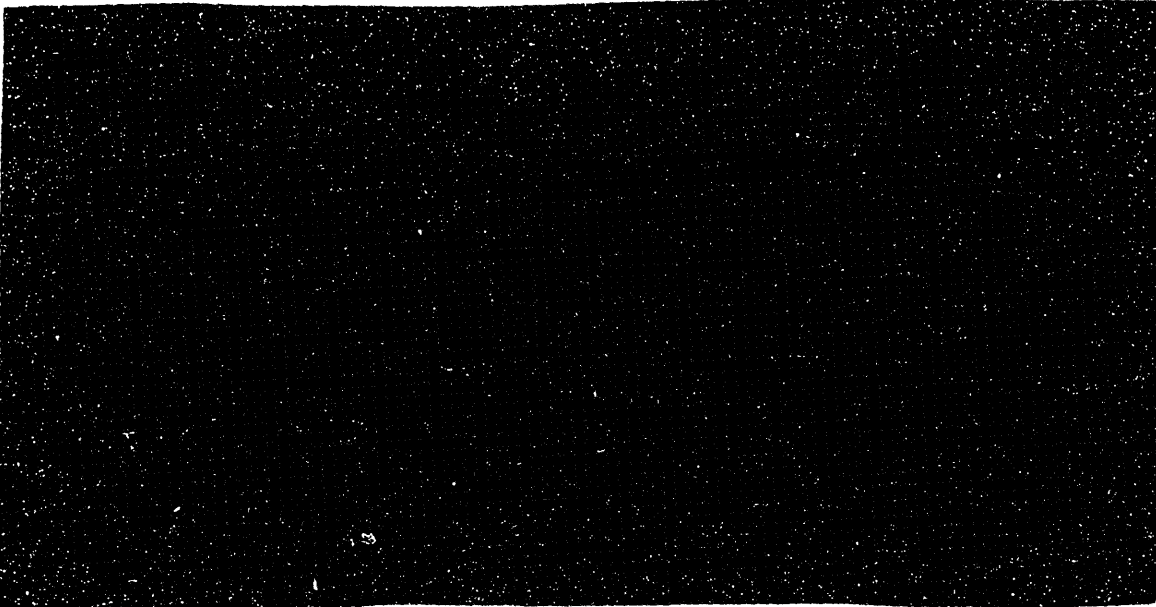
Defense
Intelligence
Summary

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21 APRIL 1983
(FOR JULIAN DAY 110)

USGR-AFGHANISTAN: Combat Activity. (U)

██████████ Combat activity during the past several weeks has been highlighted by fighting northeast of Kabul and in the northwestern province of Herat.



COMMENT: ██████████ After a relative lull during March, this latest activity indicates the annual spring offensive is in progress. Again, the Soviets have quite likely stepped up the level and intensity of combat to dampen heightened resistance attacks that normally occur this time of the year.

██████████ In concert with the use of large-scale, multi-battalion, combined operations and "scorched earth" tactics, the Soviets will probably attempt to arrange local cease-fires as they tried in the Panjshir Valley. However, should any cease-fire take effect, Soviet gains will only be marginal and temporary at best. Each side recognizes that the other views such an arrangement as merely an opportunity to recoup and resupply its forces and shift operations elsewhere. Moreover, guerrilla leaders are attuned to Soviet ploys to further divide an already factionalized resistance movement. ██████████

1110-6A as of 2003 EST 19 Apr 83

ed by: ██████████